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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6647

BILL NUMBER: SB 296

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 21, 2007

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Madison County Courts.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Lanane

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill abolishes the Madison County Court on January 1, 2009. It repeals a provision that specifies the Madison County Court has two judges. It increases the number of judges serving on the Madison Superior Court from three judges to five judges on January 1, 2009. It makes the two persons elected Madison County Court judges on November 4, 2008, the fourth and fifth judges of the Madison Superior Court.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008; January 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: See *Explanation of Local Expenditures*.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill would allow the courts in Madison County to better distribute workload between these two courts and the other three superior courts in Madison County. The cost of the two types of courts is the same.

Background Information: Under IC 33-30-4, county courts are limited to hearing:

- Civil, tort, and landlord and tenant cases where the amount in controversy is less than \$10,000.
- Class D felonies, misdemeanors, and infractions.
- Local ordinance violations and traffic violations.

County courts are excluded from hearing cases involving:

- Injunctive relief or involving partition of real estate.
- Declaring or enforcing any lien.
- Paternity, juvenile, or probate issues.
- An appointment of a receiver.
- The dissolution of marriage.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Supreme Court, Division of State Court Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: Madison County Courts.

Information Sources: IC 33-30-4

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